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(Muicipal Affairs
and Environment)
May 6, 1987

NEW BRUNSWICK GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LEPREAU 2 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PANEL

RECOMMENDATION

1. The federal government consider undertaking a public review of the nuclear energy option within Canada's National Energy Policy.

RESPONSE: The subject of Canada's Energy Policy and the role of nuclear power within this was specifically excluded from the Panel's terms of reference. While not addressing the issue directly, the Panel has recommended the suggested policy review that was advanced by some environmental groups.

It has been noted in correspondence from the former Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Canada to Energy Probe and others that a national inquiry on the nuclear energy option is not a high priority at this time. There are no immediate plans to alter this position.

RECOMMENDATION

2. **Governments consider providing funding assistance to public groups to assist them in participating in highly technical reviews; criteria should be developed which, among other things, are sensitive to the interests of local citizens who live near the site of a proposed project, and to those organizations that have the ability to provide an independent examination of the Proponent's proposal and can contribute to a discussion of alternative points of view.**

RESPONSE: Through public participation programs of the environmental impact assessment process, the government of New Brunswick considers the interests of individuals and groups. These programs are particularly focused on providing local citizens most directly affected by the proposed project with information on the project and its environmental impacts. Public meetings are held to allow for a discussion of alternative points of view of the project and its environmental impacts. High quality technical review is provided by provincial and federal agencies.

The government has funded external reviews, where the necessary expertise was not available within government agencies, and will consider such approaches in the future.

However, each case is evaluated separately, and there are no plans to routinely provide funding to individuals or groups on request.

RECOMMENDATION

3. (a) Environmental impact assessment administrators continue to examine ways to improve the scientific basis for environmental impact assessment; and

(b) The principles of what constitutes an adequate baseline for environmental impact analyses be established by the reviewing agencies so that future Proponents know well in advance what will be expected.

RESPONSE: The New Brunswick government recognizes the value of sound scientific information on environmental impacts as a tool in the overall project decision-making process. In this area, the government endorses the recommendation of the Panel.

The New Brunswick Department of Municpal Affairs and Environment, the agency responsible for administering the government EIA policy, is continually evaluating the EIA process to ensure that good science is an integral part of all environmental studies. Through the government's participation in, and funding of research in environmental impact assessment, and liaison with other jurisdictions, standards are maintained that are consistent with national and international conventions.

Under the terms of the revised Clean Environment Act of New Brunswick (1983), a new environmental assessment regulation is being developed, and is considered a key step in improving the quality of environmental impact assessment in New Brunswick.

RECOMMENDATION

4. There be a greater interchange among technical experts, the Panel and the Proponent in an informal setting in future reviews.

RESPONSE: The government strongly supports this recommendation and will ensure that this occurs in all future Federal-Provincial environmental assessment reviews, should they occur.

Under the New Brunswick EIA policy there is virtually unlimited opportunity for this type of exchange between reviewers and the proponent.

The Feceral government takes a similar psoition on this issue.

ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH RADIOACTIVITY

RECOMMENDATION

5. **Monitoring agencies in addition to the Atomic Energy Control Board be notified when incidents occur in which target emission limits are exceeded.**

RESPONSE: The A.E.C.B. (Atomic Energy Control Board) agrees that there should be procedures whereby other monitoring agencies are informed when target emmission limits are exceeded. The New Brunswick Electric Power Commission amd the Government of New Brunswick support this recommendation. Environment Canada's Regional Environmental Emergency Coordinator will be notified when target emission limits are exceeded. Health and Welfare Canada, and New Brunswick Department of Health officials agree that they should be included in such notification when target emission limits are exceeded.

The Point Lepreau Environmental Monitoring Program (PLEMP), which represents government departments interested in environmental monitoring, is a suitable contact point for transmission of advice concerning nonroutine emissions. The chairman of the PLEMP Steering Committee has agreed to act as the central contact and to notify interested agencies in an appropriate manner.

RECOMMENDATION

6. **Derived Emission Limits for Lepreau I and II be updated and applied taking into account new environmental information, as soon as the Canadian Standards Association document on Derived Emission Limits and the Atomic Energy Control Board revised dose limits become available.**

RESPONSE: N.B. Power will update the Derived Emission Limits (DEL's), as a matter of course, as soon as the CSA and AECB documentation becomes available.

RECOMMENDATION

7. (a) **Provision be made in the Lepreau II design to allow for a tritium removal system to be installed at some point in the future; and**

RESPONSE: A tritium removal system can be installed at the Point Lepreau Generating Station, at either Unit I or Unit II, at any time it is deemed necessary, without a special design provision.

7. (b) **Tritiated heavy water be shipped to Darlington to be reprocessed, if levels reach the point where worker exposure requires lowering tritium levels.**

RESPONSE: There is no question that remedial action will be taken, should tritium levels increase to a point where worker exposure becomes a concern. However, at this time it seems inappropriate for NB Power to commit to a particular specified solution, when it may only be one of several alternatives available at the time it is required.

RECOMMENDATION

8. (a) **N.B. Power proceed to monitor carbon-14 in the stack as planned; and**

RESPONSE

N.B. Power is now monitoring carbon-14 in the stack at Lepreau 1 and will continue to do so.

8. (b) **The results of the carbon-14 monitoring program be evaluated periodically by the Atomic Energy Control Board and if emission levels approach 1/100 of the Derived Emission Limit, removal equipment be installed by the Proponent.**

It is current policy at Lepreau 1 to initiate corrective measures if emission levels exceed the current operating target of 1% of a derived emission limit (DEL). The AECB has also indicated that if carbon-14 emission levels approach 1% of the Derived Emission Limit, it would require any licensee (in this case, N.B. Power) to establish whether removal equipment would be warranted on the basis of the ALARA (as low as reasonably achievable) approach. Although the installation of removal equipment is one of several possible corrective measures other possible solutions may be appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION

9. **The regulatory limit for the discharge of radionuclides to the oceans be reviewed by the Atomic Energy Control Board to make it more stringent and hence provide greater assurance that only minimal amounts of radiation would be discharged to the oceans; reductions in radiation levels discharged could be achieved through the use of control technology such as evaporator systems.**

RESPONSE: The current Derived Emision Limits are based on limiting the radiation dose to humans. The AECB does not believe that the current method of calculating DEL's need be changed. This position is also supported by N.B. Power. Experience at Point Lepreau 1 and other Canadian plants has shown that actual releases can be kept below a defined operating target level of 1 % of the DEL during normal operation.

The panel has expressed general concern over discharge of radionuclides into the marine environment. In light of discussions of available technology for reducing non-volatile radionuclide releases, N. B. Power and the government of New Brunswick support such a review. However, it is felt that decisions to install such equipment should be made on the basis of the ALARA (as low as reasonably achievable) principle.

The Atomic Energy Control Board has indicated that action has been initiated to assess the appropriateness of changing the operating target from its current value of 1% of the Derived Emission Limits. Appropriate Federal and Provincial agencies will participate in discussions of revisions to the operating target.

RECOMMENDATION

10. (a) **The Proponent prepare updated information on the distribution of radioactivity in the surrounding area under various weather conditions as a result of postulated releases under accident or upset conditions; and**

(b) **The distribution patterns be included in the Emergency Plan documents or added as an Appendix.**

RESPONSE: N.B. Power, as a condition of their operating license for Lepreau 1, are required to undertake analyses to demonstrate that regulatory dose limits would not be exceeded under various hypothetical accident conditions. These analyses take into account conservative assumptions with respect to prevailing weather conditions (i.e. Class F weather).

In the event of an emergency, actual measurements, taken in conjunction with dispersion modelling, would be utilized to determine existing conditions, and emergency actions implemented accordingly. Therefore it is felt that accurate calculation of dispersion values for a wide variety of atmospheric conditions are not considered overly useful to the development of appropriate plans for responding to upset operating conditions.

N.B. Power has access to, and where appropriate, will utilize dispersion modelling in understanding the general fate of radionuclides in the environment. Ontario Hydro, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and the Atmospheric Environment Service of Environment Canada are currently developing dispersion models.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

RECOMMENDATION

11. The siren warning system be discontinued and not implemented for Lepreau II.

RESPONSE: The government acknowledges the inadequacy and poor serviceability of the present siren warning system. The New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization has commissioned a study on the system now in effect and is examining alternatives and/or refinements to it.

There are many criteria which must be satisfied to ensure the effectiveness of any warning system. In the Lepreau area, for example, it is essential that there be an outdoor component to alert that population regime. EMO has examined the alternatives and has determined that sirens are, and will likely remain the most effective device for this purpose.

There are, therefore, no intentions at this time to discontinue the siren warning system for the Point Lepreau development.

RECOMMENDATION

12. The New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization arrange with N.B. Telephone to:

(a) expand the existing telephone system in the Point Lepreau area to a switching capability of 100 lines so that wardens could be contacted quickly in an emergency;

(b) install a line load control system into the existing telephone systems; and

(c) investigate the installation of a telephone warning system that in an emergency could cause the telephones of local residents to ring for a 20 second period.

RESPONSE: The New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization agrees with the Panel that the telephone system is a key communications link in the Lepreau warning system. N. B. EMO will urge N. B. Tel to modernize and expand the existing system to effectively meet emergency requirements.

RECOMMENDATION

13. (a) The telephone link between the shift supervisor, the dispatch center and the New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization be tested periodically to ensure that it functions properly; and

(b) More frequent use of this telephone link be incorporated into operational procedures at the plant to allow personnel to become accustomed to reporting to the dispatch center.

RESPONSE: Procedures have already been implemented to address the concerns of the Panel. Testing of the telephone and radio links betweenthe plant (shift supervisor) and the dispatchcentre are tested weekly. As well, current operating procedures require the full alerting chain to be exercised routinely using a prescribed emergency format. Messages are sent at random times during normal operations, and according to specified requirements during emergency drills.

RECOMMENDATION

14. (a) Wardens be better identified so that people in the area would know who the wardens are and would be able to identify their vehicles;

(b) The New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization hold more regular meetings with the wardens to review and update as necessary the off-site emergency plan;

(c) The New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization, with the assistance of N.B. Power, assist the wardens to become more familiar with the general operating characteristics of the plant; and

(d) When selecting future wardens, there be greater use of people who are more frequently in the community (e.g. housewives, retired people).

RESPONSE: The warden component will remain a part of any future warning system. In the interim, the present system will be reviewed and the Panel's recommendations will be taken into account.

RECOMMENDATION

15. The program involving the pre-distribution of potassium iodide pills be periodically reviewed by the New Brunswick Department of Health to ensure that the pills are available in local homes and adequately safeguarded, and that the program is acceptable to the residents.

RESPONSE: This recommendation is being acted upon by the Department of Health. The next distribution of pills is set for 1988, preceded in the interim by a review of health considerations.

In future demographic surveys carried out by the New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization, residents will be asked questions aimed at assessing public knowledge and perception of their purpose, and to develop safeguards against improper use.

It has been determined that pre-distribution is the only practical method for dispensing the drug rapidly in an emergency.

RECOMMENDATION

16. (a) The New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization keep the public better informed on procedures to follow during any future mock emergencies and on any new developments regarding emergency procedures in general; and

(b) Future mock exercises be less complex and more realistic to maintain the high level of public awareness in the area and minimize skepticism and anxiety.

RESPONSE: EMO understands the Panel's concern regarding the level of public credibility in emergency plans. However, N.B.E.M.O. exerts substantial efforts to keep the public informed of its programs and activities. Demographic surveys are conducted annually, and public meetings are held to provide information and an opportunity for discussion. The Panel's own expert witness reported on the effectiveness of EMO's efforts. He concluded that residents were exceptionally well informed on emergency procedures and had the highest level of awareness he had ever experienced.

The complexity of exercises (eg Grey Owl I) has been the subject of much discussion. Exercises of this type have been contracted out in the past. This has been done so that the EMO itself could be exercised. In an endeavor to severely tax emergency communications systems and other resources, the consultant incorporated many occurrences that could be termed irrelevant, thereby creating problems and confusion in the minds of some. Such events will not be included in future exercises.

NON-RADIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

RECOMMENDATION

17. (a) Data for Lepreau I be collected over at least a two year period to determine if fish and invertebrate mortality due to impingement is significant; and

RESPONSE: N. B. Power will hold discussions with Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) to determine if an effective monitoring program can be carried out to evaluate if fish and invertebrate mortality due to impingement is significant.

Although the Panel has recommended that a monitoring program be carried out, there are significant limitations to the effectiveness of such a program in determining

the effect on valued species in the Bay of Fundy. The analysis carried out in the EIS used worst case scenarios based upon available scientific data. It will be necessary to evaluate whether the confidence in predictions made in the EIS can be significantly improved upon.

If the discussions between N. B. Power and DFO indicate that a effective monitoring program can and should be carried out, N. B. Power will undertake to implement it.

17. (b) **These data be reviewed by Fisheries and Oceans to determine the extent to which fish and invertebrate mortality is occurring ; if the mortality is significant or is likely to be significant for two units, then mitigation measures be implemented.**

RESPONSE: The results of the environmental impact analyses carried out in support of the EIS show that fish and invertebrate mortality is not significant. Should evidence arise to the contrary, mitigation measures will be carefully evaluated and implemented to the extent feasible.

RECOMMENDATION

18. (a) **Entrainment data for Lepreau I be collected for at least a two year period to determine the extent of the impact of Lepreau I, and**

(b) **These data be reviewed by Fisheries and Oceans and if impacts are found to be significant or are likely to be significant for two units, then mitigation measures be implemented.**

RESPONSE: N.B. Power will hold discussions with Fisheries and Oceans Canada with respect to this recommendation subject to the conditions noted in the response to recommendation #17.

RECOMMENDATION

19. (a) More data be collected to accurately determine the size, configuration, and temperature differentials of the thermal plume;

RESPONSE: N.B. Power concurs with the Panel's conclusion that the data upon which the plume (model) was calibrated are limited. Therefore, they will implement a monitoring program to provide additional data for that purpose.

19. (b) Biological data be collected to determine if there are detrimental effects due to residence in the thermal plume or impingement of the thermal plume on marine biota;

RESPONSE: The Bedford Institute of Oceanography (DFO) has been engaged in a biological monitoring program since before the operation of Lepreau I began, which is aimed at determining if there are detrimental effects on certain components of the marine environment due to the thermal plume. N. B. Power will review the results of this work with DFO upon its completion. At this time, additional monitoring work is not considered to be necessary.

19. (c) Results be reviewed by Fisheries and Oceans to determine if mitigation measures are necessary at present or are likely to be required with the addition of Lepreau II.

RESPONSE: Should the results of monitoring programs show that there are significant detrimental effects due to the thermal plume, the Government of New Brunswick will ensure that these impacts are mitigated to the extent feasible.

RECOMMENDATION

20. The chlorinator be operated until Maritime Nuclear is able to demonstrate that treated sewage from Lepreau I as well as the predicted loading from Lepreau I and II would have no effect on the shellfish beds.

RESPONSE: There is no evidence to indicate that sewage effluent from Point Lepreau I is contaminating shellfish beds.

The perceived measure of protection afforded by the chlorination of effluent must be weighed against the possible impacts of chlorine on marine organisms in the vicinity of the outfall.

The sewage treatment plant installed at Lepreau has been designed to handle wastes from two units and there is no evidence to indicate that it will not perform according to design.

In cooperation with the appropriate agencies of government, the performance of the sewage treatment system and the relationship between effluent from the plant and bacterial contamination of shellfish in the vicinity will continue to be monitored.

RECOMMENDATION

21. **Maritime Nuclear re-examine the adequacy of the existing inactive liquid waste treatment facility to handle additional wastewater from Lepreau II in light of the measures that may have to be taken to resolve the present suspended solids problem.**

RESPONSE: The performance of the inactive waste treatment facility has been improved and it's adequacy will be routinely examined during the detailed design stage of the project.

RECOMMENDATION

22. **N.B. Power and the New Brunswick Department of the Environment periodically monitor suspended solids in the effluent of the sludge disposal ponds to ensure that established provincial standards are met.**

RESPONSE: Despite the fact that overflow from the these ponds will probably be very infrequent, the New Brunswick Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment now requires N. B. Power to monitor the operation of these lagoons. Monitoring data collected by N.B. Power is submitted to, and reviewed by the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment to ensure that provincial discharge standards are met.

RECOMMENDATION

23. If chemical control is required to control biofouling in the cooling water system, required chlorine dosage rates be determined based upon discussions with Fisheries and Oceans to establish effective control and safe environmental levels.

RESPONSE: The addition of chlorine or other chemicals for control of biofouling in the Lepreau cooling water system would require approval from the New Brunswick Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment. Approved levels would be based upon discussions with the appropriate federal and provincial agencies to ensure safe environmental levels and effective control.

MONITORING OF THE BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

RECOMMENDATION

24. The Point Lepreau Environmental Monitoring Program continue until its objectives have been fully achieved.

RESPONSE: The Government of New Brunswick strongly agrees with this recommendation. The New Brunswick Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment sits on the steering committee of PLEMP and conducts sampling activities in support of the program. This will continue as long as the program is in effect.

In addition, the N. B. Power Operational Environmental Radiation Monitoring Program will continue throughout the operating life of the existing station.

RECOMMENDATION

25. (a) A coordinating committee be formed consisting of the Proponent and all government agencies involved in monitoring Lepreau I to coordinate the various monitoring programs and report annually on their findings; and

(b) The coordination role be assumed either by the expansion of the present steering committee of the Point Lepreau Environmental Monitoring Program or by the creation of a new committee where the lead role or chairmanship would rotate among the various agencies involved.

RESPONSE: It is agreed by the provincial and federal agencies involved in monitoring Lepreau I to expand the present Steering Committee of the Point Lepreau Environmental Monitoring Program to Coordinate and report on monitoring programs.

RECOMMENDATION

26. The federal government undertake further research on the impact of radioactive releases on components of the environment other than humans.

RESPONSE: The government of New Brunswick concurs with this recommendation, and is prepared to co-operate with the appropriate agencies of the Federal government for the purpose of defining the scope of such research.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES

RECOMMENDATION

27. (a) The Proponent reach timely agreement with the New Brunswick Community College, Saint John Campus, to establish, in cooperation with governments, training and upgrading programs for tradesmen; and

(b) Attempt to resolve, through discussions with the relevant trade unions, the difficulties identified during the construction of Lepreau I with respect to the employment of local workers.

RESPONSE: The government of New Brunswick strongly supports this recommendation. Mechanisms are now in place to identify and plan on an

ongoing basis for all skilled labour and professional requirements in the Province, not only those specific to Lepreau 2.

Additionally, should Lepreau 2 proceed, the New Brunswick Department of Advanced Education and Training, in consultation with the Proponent, would provide pre-employment training and/or upgrading training for tradesmen so as to provide enhanced employment opportunities for New Brunswickers.

N. B. Power, on behalf of the proponent, has also entered into negotiations with relevant trade unions regarding the Lepreau 2 project. These negotiations include the issues of deployment of graduates of training programs.

RECOMMENDATION

28. The Proponent and appropriate government agencies examine further and encourage the development of the use of waste heat from both Lepreau reactors for commercial purposes.

RESPONSE: The government of New Brunswick strongly endorses this recommendation. The issue of waste heat utilization at Lepreau 2 is being addressed under a provincial science and technology strategy. Aquaculture is one area which has been targeted for industrial growth under this strategy. There are also plans for an Industry Task Force to explore opportunities such as waste heat utilization at Lepreau 1 and 2.

As well, the government and the Canadian Electrical Association have funded successful demonstration projects using waste heat from the Grand Lake generating station.

Should Lepreau 2 proceed, N. B. Power will undertake, in conjunction with the Department of Commerce and Technology, to examine the potential for commercial utilization of waste heat at Point Lepreau.

RECOMMENDATION

29. The New Brunswick Department of Commerce and Development study and identify high technology engineering and technical opportunities for New Brunswick firms associated with Lepreau II and the potential for growth of these firms.

RESPONSE: The government of New Brunswick supports the recommendation of the Panel, and is committed to further analyze, develop, and promote economic development activities associated with Lepreau 2, should a decision be made to proceed with the project.

RECOMMENDATION

30. The Proponent distribute to people associated with the project, detailed information on its approach to personnel management and training policies, labour-management relations, and planned mechanisms for conflict resolution throughout the different phases of the project.

RESPONSE: N.B. Power, on behalf of the proponent, has entered into negotiations with relevant unions regarding these and other, issues with the intent of achieving an agreement over the life of the construction phase, as recommended. Details will be distributed to project personnel once such agreement has been reached and the decision taken to proceed with the project. N.B. Power has specific policies regarding these issues for its own personnel, and these are documented and distributed as required.

RECOMMENDATION

31. The New Brunswick Department of Municipal Affairs re-examine the possibility of establishing a Local Service District Advisory Committee to serve local citizens in the Point Lepreau area who do not presently benefit from this type of representation.

RESPONSE: Local citizens in the vicinity of Lepreau reside in two Local Service Districts, Musquash LSD and Lepreau LSD. The plant itself is in the Musquash LSD which

has a very active Local Service District Advisory Committee. N.B. Power is also prepared to provide appropriate planning information with respect to Lepreau I and Lepreau II to the New Brunswick Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment and to an Advisory Committee for the Lepreau Local Service District, should such a committee be formed in the future.

There is no Local Service District Advisory Committee in the Lepreau LSD due to a lack of interest shown by residents in serving on such a group. The Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment will, however, continue to encourage the establishment of a Local Service District Advisory Committee for the Lepreau LSD.

RECOMMENDATION

32. **The Proponent support the local residents in resolving concerns they have with school services, fire protection and roads.**

RESPONSE: N. B. Power deals directly with the concerns of local residents through its existing community liaison programs, and will continue to assist communities in resolving problems associated with Lepreau development to the extent possible.

Although the direct provision of support for school services, fire protection and roads is beyond its mandate, N. B. Power indirectly providessubstantial support by contributing to the general revenues of the Province through taxation. These funds are disbursed to provincial departments in support of the overall supply of services and infrastructure according to need.

N. B. Power will also actively co-operate with the appropriate provincial agencies in planning for social service requirements.

RECOMMENDATION

33. **A new elementary school be constructed in the Lepreau area as soon as possible to accommodate existing demand and the demand that would result from Lepreau II.**

RESPONSE: The government agrees that a new school is necessary in the Pt. Lepreau area. Mace's Bay School is in the architectural planning stage of review. Construction is expected to begin in 1987, with a target date for occupancy of December, 1988.

It is relevant to point out here that although the peak level of population of elementary schools in the area did coincide with the peak years of construction at Point Lepreau, the entire increase cannot be attributed to this factor. The peak school populations also coincide with the repatriation of grades 5 and 6 from Saint John schools to Maces Bay School.

RECOMMENDATION

34. **The Proponent provide fire protection to the surrounding communities during construction of Lepreau II and transfer the equipment to local residents when construction is complete.**

RESPONSE: The proponent will assist the surrounding communities with the provision of fire-fighting equipment to the extent possible during plant construction. When the on-site requirement for this equipment ceases, the proponent will endeavor to dispose of it in a manner acceptable to those communities.

RECOMMENDATION

35. (a) **The New Brunswick Department of Transportation review traffic projections to determine whether Highway 1 expansion is required if a decision is made to proceed with Lepreau II; and**

(b) **Alternatives to highway twinning (e.g. busing construction workers) be examined, and if it is determined that twinning is required earlier to accommodate Lepreau II workers, the Proponent should provide financial assistance to the Department of Transportation for the construction costs involved.**

RESPONSE: The New Brunswick Department of Transportation has carried out a review of Highway 1 traffic projections. As actual traffic estimates depend upon many factors, including dates of construction

and schedules of construction workers, further action on this recommendation awaits firm notice of Lepreau 2 construction.

The proponent will examine a range of alternatives to minimize or redistribute peak traffic loads. Should it be determined that Route 1 requires upgrading to maintain its designated level of service, the Department of Transportation will consider all options for funding of construction costs. The financial responsibility for such a project cannot be allocated to other parties at this time, but will be considered should Lepreau 2 proceed.

RECOMMENDATION

36. Social services agencies review their programs and resources in the project area and ensure there is sufficient flexibility to adapt them if necessary to meet changing needs.

RESPONSE: There is at the present time sufficient flexibility within the program budgets of New Brunswick social service agencies to adapt strictly to the needs of the area supporting construction of Lepreau 2. If Lepreau 2 proceeds, a review of programs will be undertaken to ensure that service requirements are fulfilled. Service needs are consistently monitored, reviewed and updated to meet the requirements of New Brunswick residents.

The proponent will also compliment social services provided by government agencies, through its corporate human resource programs.

RECOMMENDATION

37. The New Brunswick Government and the Proponent establish a community advisory committee as soon as possible and provide it with the necessary administrative support.

RESPONSE: Should the Lepreau 2 project proceed, the New Brunswick Government will work with the proponent, business, community, and labour groups to initiate formation of such a committee as recommended by the Panel.

With regard to the suggestion that a group be formed at this time, the Government feels that a wide range of opportunities are available to local residents to carry forward issues regarding general government services.

For some time N. B. Power maintained a Community Liaison Officer at the Plant who responded to a citizens' consultative committee. The necessity for both these has diminished and they no longer exist. Therefore, the need for establishment of such a committee does not appear to be justified at this time.

DECOMMISSIONING, USED FUEL TRANSPORT AND DISPOSAL

RECOMMENDATION

38. (a) **The annual decommissioning levy be scaled so that contributions are higher during the first years of operation; and**

(b) **The levy be adjusted according to new knowledge on decommissioning and transportation technology.**

RESPONSE: The amount of the annual charge will reviewed periodically by the proponent and increased if collection over a shorter period is justified.

RECOMMENDATION

39. **The Proponent review periodically the amount of the Used Fuel Fund in light of any new technical or financial information or any significant change in research and development costs to the utilities.**

RESPONSE: The proponent will undertake a periodic review of the technical and financial circumstances that may affect the amount required for the Used Fuel Fund.